

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A single-part shear coupling, comprising:
consisting of a cylindrical body having a first end of a first diameter and a second end of
a second diameter, the first diameter being larger than the second diameter, with a cylindrical
hollow part of the body at the first end having an internally threaded cavity in one end of said
body and an externally threaded pin on the other defining the second end of said body, [[a]] the
cylindrical hollow part of said body joining both said ends of the body is being weakened by a
groove providing a stress concentration point where the coupling will part[[,]] when exposed to a
predetermined desired load.

2. (Currently amended) A single-part shear coupling ~~consisting of~~ comprising a
hollow cylindrical body having opposed ends and a bore extending between the opposed ends,
with an internal thread in both of the ends of said body, which is weakened by a groove
positioned between said threaded ends of the ~~cylinder~~ cylindrical hollow body providing a stress
concentration point where the coupling will part, when exposed to a predetermined desired load.

3. (Currently amended) A shear coupling according to ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 1 or 2, where
[[the]] a surface of the groove is protected by a corrosion preventing coating.

4. (Currently amended) A shear coupling according to Claim 1 or 2, where ~~the~~
inside a surface of the cylindrical body of said coupling, opposite to the ~~outside~~ outside groove, is
protected by a corrosion preventing coating.

5. (Currently amended) A shear coupling according to Claim 1 or 2, where the
stress concentration point is provided by locally reducing the outside diameter of the body of the
[[said]] coupling.

6. (Currently amended) A shear coupling according to Claim 1 or 2, where the stress concentration point is provided by locally enlarging the inside diameter of the body of the [[said]] coupling.

7. (Currently amended) A shear coupling according to Claim 1 or 2, where the stress concentration point is provided by locally reducing the outside diameter of the body of the [[said]] coupling and also locally enlarging the inside diameter of the body of the [[said]] coupling.

8. (Withdrawn - Currently amended) A shear coupling according to Claim 1 or 2, where the stress concentration point is provided by a number of openings in the cylindrical body of the [[said]] coupling, situated on the circumference of the body of the coupling in one or more rows, oriented perpendicularly to [[the]] an axle of the coupling.

9. (Withdrawn - Currently amended) A shear coupling according to Claim 1 or 2, where the stress concentration point is provided by a number of cavities in the cylindrical body, situated on the circumference of the body of the [[said]] coupling in one or more rows, oriented perpendicularly to [[the]] an axle of the coupling.